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Title: Need to increase the frequency of local trains from Pune to Lonavala and Shuttle Service from Pune to Daund in Maharashtra and to introduce a direct train on Lonavala-Pune-Daund route.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (PUNE): On the Pune - Lonavala railway route, the number of daily passengers has gone down by 13 lakh since 2010. About 41.01 lakh commuters travelled on Pune - Daund route in 2010-11 which went down to 39 lakh in 2012-13.

The railway administration operates 42 trips of local trains every day on Pune - Lonavala - Pune route and four trips on the Shivajinagar -Talegaon - Shivajinagar route. On an average, a commuter finds a local train every hour during the day time. The Pune - Daund route has 10 daily passenger trains running up to Daund, Baramati and Manmad with a frequency of one train every two and a half hour. In the last three years, the railway administration has introduced 12-Coach rakes to increase carrying capacity of trains.

I urge upon the Railway Minister to increase the frequency of local trains from Pune to Lonavala and shuttle service from Pune to Daund and run these trains every half an hour. A direct train should also be introduced on Lonavala - Pune - Daund route. These steps will help the commuters and also increase the revenue of railways.